

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current  
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



A 292.9  
So 35  
Cop. 2



U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

MAY 12 1966

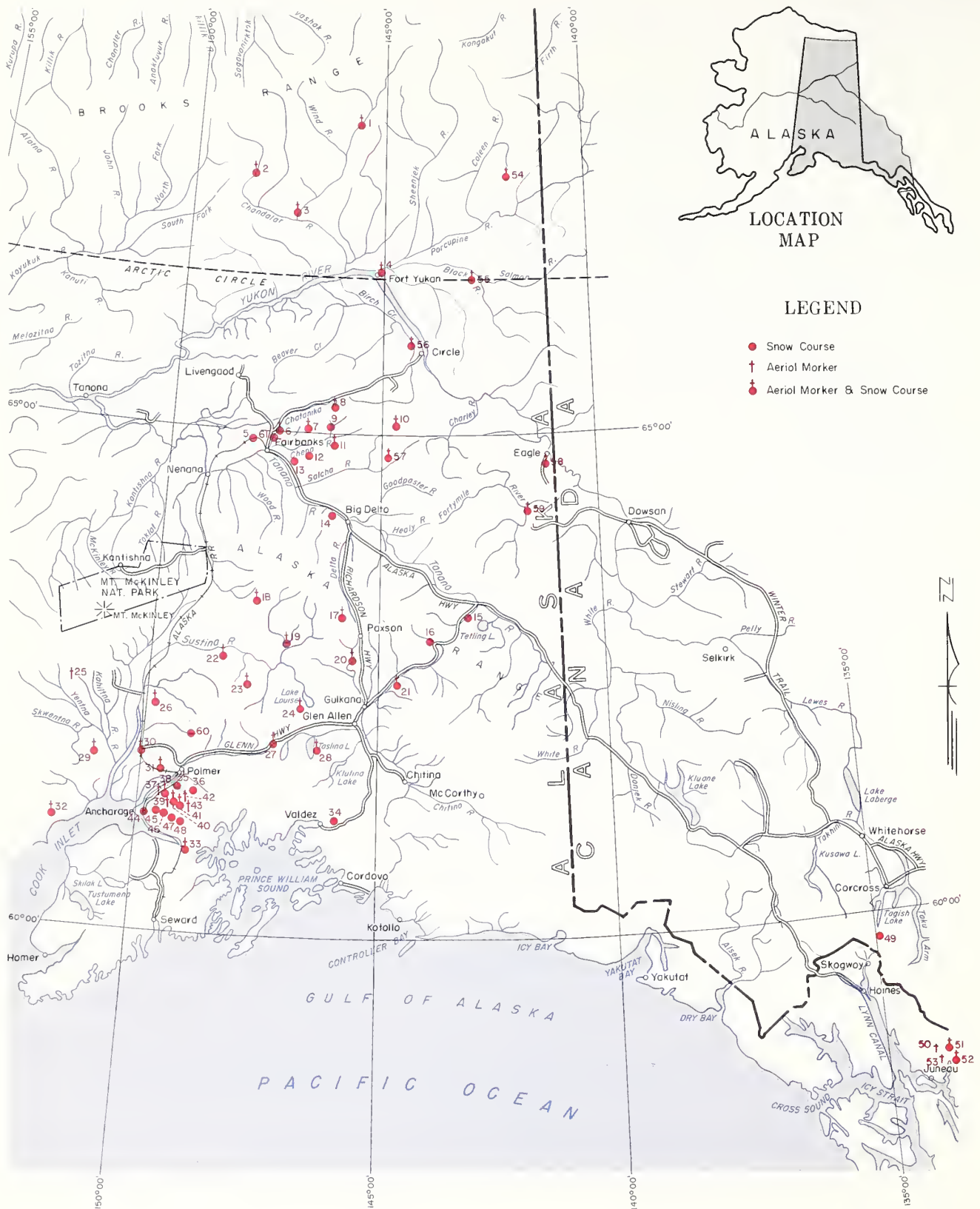
CURRENT SERIAL ACQUISITION

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE  
**COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS**  
for  
**ALASKA**

U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE , SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
and  
ALASKA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Alaska Highway Dept., Alaska Department of Fish and Game and University of Alaska.

AS OF  
**APR. 1, 1966**



## SNOW COURSES for ALASKA

50 0 50 100 150  
SCALE IN MILES

# SNOW SURVEYS

for

## ALASKA

Report Prepared by

T. G. FREEMAN, SNOW SURVEY SUPERVISOR

Issued by

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

H. W. COOPER, STATE CONSERVATIONIST  
P. O. BOX 5, PALMER, ALASKA

### INDEX OF ALASKA SNOW COURSES

| MAP<br>NO. | COURSE NAME       | COURSE<br>NO. | ELEV. | MAP<br>NO. | COURSE NAME                  | COURSE<br>NO. | ELEV. |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|------------|------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1          | Arctic Village    | 45TT1A        | 2300  | 32         | McArthur                     | 51MM1A        | 120   |
| 2          | Chandalar Lake    | 48SS1A        | 2040  | 33         | Twenty Mile                  | 48LL1A        | 100   |
| 3          | Venetie           | 46SS1A        | 610   | 34         | Worthington Glacier          | 45MM1         | 2400  |
| 4          | Fort Yukon        | 45RR1A        | 425   | 35         | Moraine                      | 48MM1A        | 2100  |
| 5          | Yak Pasture       | 47PP1         | 540   | 36         | Ptarmigan                    | 48MM2         | 3000  |
| 6          | Cleary Summit     | 47QQ1A        | 2230  | 37         | Glacier                      | 48MM3a        |       |
| 7          | Little Chena      | 46QQ2A        | 2200  | 38         | Grizzly                      | 48MM4A        | 5000  |
| 8          | Mt. Ryan          | 46QQ1A        | 2950  | 39         | Sheep                        | 48MM5a        | 2500  |
| 9          | Chena Hot Springs | 46QQ3         | 1180  | 40         | Bowl                         | 48MM6a        | 4500  |
| 10         | Big Windy         | 44QQ2A        | 3850  | 41         | Goat                         | 48MM7A        | 3200  |
| 11         | Munson Ridge      | 46PP1A        | 3100  | 42         | Marmot                       | 48MM8A        | 2000  |
| 12         | Little Salch      | 46PP3         | 1500  | 43         | Little Glacier               | 48MM9a        | 4000  |
| 13         | French Creek      | 46PP2         | 2010  | 44         | Arctic Valley #1             | 49MM1         | 500   |
| 14         | Big Delta         | 45PP1         | 975   | 45         | Arctic Valley #2             | 49MM2         | 1000  |
| 15         | Tok Junction      | 43001         | 1650  | 46         | Arctic Valley #3             | 49MM3         | 2030  |
| 16         | Mentasta Pass     | 43NN1         | 2430  | 47         | Arctic Valley #4             | 49MM4         | 2330  |
| 17         | Fielding Lake     | 45001A        | 3000  | 48         | Arctic Ski Bowl              | 49MM5         | 3000  |
| 18         | Monahan Flat      | 47001A        | 2710  | 49         | Log Cabin (British Columbia) | 35KK1         | 2880  |
| 19         | Clearwater Lake   | 46NN1A        | 3100  | 50         | Upper Long Lake              | 33JJ2a        | 1000  |
| 20         | Haggard Creek     | 45NN1A        | 2540  | 51         | Long Lake                    | 33JJ1A        | 1075  |
| 21         | Chistochina       | 44NN1A        | 2170  | 52         | Speel River                  | 33JJ3A        | 275   |
| 22         | Fog Lakes         | 48NN1A        | 2270  | 53         | Crater Lake                  | 33JJ4a        | 1750  |
| 23         | Oshetna Lake      | 47NN1A        | 2950  | 54         | Coleen River                 | 42SS1A        | 1100  |
| 24         | Lake Louise       | 46NN2A        | 2400  | 55         | Black River                  | 42RR1A        | 650   |
| 25         | Chelatna Lake     | 51NN1a        | 1650  | 56         | Circle City                  | 44QQ3A        | 600   |
| 26         | Bald Mtn. Lake    | 49NN1A        | 2150  | 57         | Caribou Mine                 | 45PP2A        | 1115  |
| 27         | Sheep Mountain    | 45MM1         | 2700  | 58         | Eagle Village                | 41PP1A        | 900   |
| 28         | St. Anne's Lake   | 46MM1A        | 1985  | 59         | Chicken Airstrip             | 41PP2A        | 1650  |
| 29         | Alexander Lake    | 50MM1A        | 200   | 60         | Independence Mine            | 49MM7         | 3300  |
| 30         | Willow Airstrip   | 50MM2A        | 150   | 61         | Glenn Creek                  | 47PP2         | 925   |
| 31         | Wasilla Airstrip  | 49MM6A        | 350   |            |                              |               |       |



## APRIL 1966

Little additional snow fell through interior Alaska during the month of March. Most of this portion of the State has less than normal snow cover but the Chena and Upper Tanana Watersheds continue to have considerably more than average. The greater snow cover in this region is the result of heavy snowfall early in the winter.

Southeast Alaska received heavy snow in the mountain regions, and the existing snowpack is considerably greater than last year at this time.

### YUKON - above Rampart

The nine snow courses measured in this area indicate generally light snow cover. Slightly less snow depth and water content were measured than were found last year at this time, except in the 40-Mile River region. This watershed has considerably more snow than last year, as indicated by measurements made near Chicken and Eagle.

### TANANA - CHENA Drainage

Snow courses in this region show that a snowpack of approximately 130% of average still remains on the ground in the Chena Watershed. The entire Upper Tanana, including the Chena drainage, has somewhat more than average snow cover.

March was a relatively dry month and a less than normal increase in snow cover was measured at all stations. Very little snow melt had occurred in this drainage basin, even at the lower elevations, by April 1.

### MATANUSKA - SUSITNA - COPPER Drainage

This entire region has a relatively light snow cover, even to the higher elevations. Very strong winds removed much of the snow from many areas above timberline. Snow measurements have been made for only a short time in this region, but snow cover is estimated to be considerably below average.

### COASTAL Drainage

Snow cover in the Coastal drainage near Anchorage varies considerably but is generally less than normal.

### SNETTISHAM Drainage

Snow measurements made in the Snettisham Watershed show a great increase over last month. The Crater Lake snow course indicates a depth of 171" of snow, with 80.5" of water equivalent. This is more than double the amount measured last year. Measurements have not been made in this region for a long enough period to establish an average.

# ALASKA SNOW SURVEYS

| DRAINAGE BASIN<br>AND<br>SNOW COURSE | MAP<br>NO. | DATE OF<br>SURVEY | SNOW<br>DEPTH<br>(INCHES) | WATER<br>CONTENT<br>(INCHES) | WATER CONTENT |           |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
|                                      |            |                   |                           |                              | LAST YEAR     | AVERAGE * |
| Yukon Drainage:                      |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Log Cabin                            | 49         | 4/1/66            | 39                        | 11.5                         | 15.1          | 12.4      |
| Arctic Village                       | 1          | 3/11/66           | 20                        | 2.8                          | 2.7           | -         |
| Venetie                              | 3          | 3/12/66           | 18                        | 2.6                          | 2.7           | -         |
| Fort Yukon                           | 4          | 3/12/66           | 19                        | 2.5                          | 3.6           | -         |
| Coleen River                         | 54         | 3/11/66           | 16                        | 2.1                          | 2.7           | -         |
| ** Black River                       | 55         | 3/11/66           | 23                        | 3.0E                         | 3.4           | -         |
| Circle City                          | 56         | 3/10/66           | 21                        | 2.7                          | 3.3           | -         |
| ** Eagle Village                     | 58         | 3/10/66           | 30                        | 5.0E                         | 2.8           | -         |
| Chicken Airstrip                     | 59         | 3/10/66           | 21                        | 3.54                         | 2.2           | -         |
| Tanana - Chena<br>Drainage:          |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Yak Pasture                          | 5          | 3/28/66           | 28                        | 4.8                          | 2.6           | 3.7       |
| Cleary Summit                        | 6          | 3/28/66           | 36                        | 7.5                          | 4.3           | 6.2       |
| Little Chena                         | 7          | 3/28/66           | 39                        | 5.2                          | 4.0           | 5.1       |
| Mt. Ryan                             | 8          | 3/28/66           | 35                        | 8.0                          | 4.4           | 6.8       |
| Chena Hot Springs                    | 9          | 3/28/66           | 26                        | 4.1                          | 3.0           | 2.6       |
| Big Windy                            | 10         | 3/28/66           | 9                         | 2.7                          | 2.8           | 2.6       |
| Munson Ridge                         | 11         | 3/28/66           | 63                        | 19.8                         | 11.6          | 15.2      |
| Little Salcha                        | 12         | 3/30/66           | 37                        | 8.5                          | 3.1           | 5.3       |
| French Creek                         | 13         | 3/30/66           | 40                        | 8.5                          | 4.4           | 6.8       |
| Big Delta                            | 14         | 3/30/66           | 21                        | 3.5                          | 0.0           | 1.9       |
| Tok                                  | 15         | 3/29/66           | 19                        | 3.0                          | 2.1           | 3.1       |
| Mentasta Pass                        | 16         | 3/29/66           | 24                        | 4.7                          | 3.6           | 6.2       |
| Fielding Lake                        | 17         | 3/30/66           | 42                        | 9.7                          | 7.2           | 12.9      |
| Caribou Mine                         | 57         | 3/28/66           | 31                        | 6.6                          | 3.4           | -         |
| Glenn Creek                          | 61         |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Matanuska-Susitna<br>Drainage:       |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| ** Monahan Flat                      | 18         | 3/28/66           | 27                        | 6.1E                         | -             | -         |
| Clearwater Lake                      | 19         | 3/28/66           | 26                        | 5.9                          | 4.5           | -         |
| Fog Lakes                            | 22         | 3/28/66           | 17                        | 3.6                          | -             | -         |
| Oshetna Lake                         | 23         | 3/29/66           | 18                        | 2.9                          | -             | -         |
| Lake Louise                          | 24         | 3/29/66           | 22                        | 3.9                          | 3.1           | -         |
| ** Chelatna Lake                     | 25         | 3/28/66           | 32                        | 8.7E                         | -             | -         |
| ** Bald Mtn. Lake                    | 26         | 3/28/66           | 13                        | 2.7E                         | -             | -         |
| Sheep Mountain                       | 27         | 4/1/66            | 16                        | 3.4                          | 3.5           | 4.9       |
| Alexander Lake                       | 29         | 3/28/66           | 40                        | 10.9                         | -             | -         |
| Willow Airstrip                      | 30         | 3/29/66           | 34                        | 8.3                          | 3.8           | -         |
| Independence Mine                    | 60         | 4/1/66            | 45                        | 12.0                         | 15.6          | -         |
| Copper River<br>Drainage:            |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Haggard Creek                        | 20         | 3/28/66           | 30                        | 6.3                          | -             | -         |
| ** St. Anne's Lake                   | 28         | 3/29/66           | 24                        | 4.8E                         | -             | -         |

\*\* Aerial Markers

(\*) Average for Period of Record





# ALASKA SNOW SURVEYS

| DRAINAGE BASIN<br>AND<br>SNOW COURSE | MAP<br>NO. | DATE OF<br>SURVEY | SNOW<br>DEPTH<br>(INCHES) | WATER<br>CONTENT<br>(INCHES) | WATER CONTENT |           |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
|                                      |            |                   |                           |                              | LAST YEAR     | AVERAGE * |
| Coastal Drainage:                    |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| **McArthur                           | 32         | 3/28/66           | 52                        | 14.2                         | -             | -         |
| Worthington                          |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Glacier                              | 34         | 4/1/66            | 60                        | 16.3                         | 13.3          | 21.9      |
| Moraine                              | 35         | 4/5/66            | 40                        | 10                           | 7.0           | 7.9       |
| Ptarmigan                            | 36         | 4/5/66            | 41                        | 11.8                         | 8.6           | 9.0       |
| Grizzly                              | 38         | 4/5/66            | 61                        | 17.4                         | 21.9          | 22.4      |
| Goat                                 | 41         | 4/5/66            | 40                        | 10.8                         | 16.5          | 18.5      |
| Marmot                               | 42         | 4/5/66            | 59                        | 24.1                         | 9.6           | 17.9      |
| Arctic Valley #1                     | 44         | 3/31/66           | 19                        | 3.2                          | -             | 6.9       |
| Arctic Valley #2                     | 45         | 3/31/66           | 22                        | 4.2                          | T             | 1.4       |
| Arctic Valley #3                     | 46         | 3/31/66           | 29                        | 5.5                          | 5.4           | 4.9       |
| Arctic Valley #4                     | 47         | 3/31/66           | 31                        | 6.5                          | 3.9           | 4.8       |
| Arctic Ski Bowl                      | 48         | 3/31/66           | 40                        | 10.7                         | 16.1          | 12.8      |
| Snettisham                           |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Drainage:                            |            |                   |                           |                              |               |           |
| Upper Long Lake                      | 50         | 3/31/66           | 110                       | 43.0                         | 28.0          | -         |
| Long Lake                            | 51         | 3/31/66           | 119                       | 47.4                         | 34.0          | -         |
| Speel River                          | 52         | 3/31/66           | 98                        | 38.6                         | 31.0          | -         |
| Crater Lake                          | 53         | 3/31/66           | 171                       | 80.5                         | 37.9          | -         |

\*\* Aerial Markers

(\*) Average for Period of Record





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
P.O. BOX F, PALMER, ALASKA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE  
**COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS**

Furnishes the basic data  
necessary for forecasting  
water supply for irrigation,  
domestic and municipal water  
supply, hydro-electric power  
generation, navigation,  
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins  
with the Snow Survey"*